Utah Multicultural Commission Board Room, State Capitol Tuesday, November 17, 2015 Discussion Notes

MCC Attendees: Dr. Marc Babitz, Lucy Cardenas, Brooke Adams for Rollin Cook, Lt. Governor Spencer J. Cox, Dean Hirabayashi, Claudia Nakano, Tami Pyfer, Dr. Kyle Reyes, Byron Russell, Dr. Jacqueline Thompson

MCC Excused: Pamela Atkinson, Benjamin Au, Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck, Julie Fisher, Nathan Hanamaikai. Jon Pierpont

MCC Unexcused: Aden Batar, Steven Ha, Kimberly Henrie, Anapesi Kaili, Lavanya Mahate, Jean Mills-Barber, Ze Min Xiao, Len Novilla, Jeremy Peterson, Paul Tsosie, Ann Williamson

Guests: Brian Somers, Rozanna Benally-Sagg, Jenny Hor, Yajanetsy Ruano, Stephen LeFevre

Welcome - Lt. Governor Spencer Cox

Lt. Governor Cox welcomed all attendees to the MCC and MLK Commission meeting. Commission members then introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes (A full quorum was not available for the meeting)

- **MOTION:** Dr. Kyle Reyes motioned to approve the minutes from August 27, 2015. Dean Hirabayashi seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.
- **MOTION:** Marc Babitz motioned to approve the discussion notes from September 15, 2015. Dr. Jacqueline Thompson seconded the motion. The motion passed with a unanimous vote.

Recap of Pam Perlich's Presentation – Byron Russell

Pam Perlich's presentation was an incredible opportunity for the Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights (MLK) Commission and the Multicultural Commission (MCC) to come together. The collective input from members of both commissions was phenomenal. The presentation and discussion topics inspired MCC to focus on the commission's future endeavors in particular to Utah's changing demographics. Recommended target areas for MCC to address are Economics, Health, Corrections, and Education. An emphasis is to include the youth perspective and voice into the MCC conversation.

MCC Youth Council

Byron Russell

MCC is in discussion of creative ways to incorporate involvement from the youth. For the past 2 years, Claudia and her MCA team have developed a basic plan of a Youth Ambassadorship program. However, due to limited staff and resources the plan has been put on hold for the moment. A recommendation is for the MCC Commission to help Claudia and her MCA team to continue establishing the Youth Ambassadorship program which is inclusive of MCC's focus areas. The purpose of the Youth Ambassadorship program is to help inspire, teach, and guide the commission in what impacts the youth. The target age would possibly be high school and college students. Commission members are invited to join Claudia and her MCA team in developing the program to help shape and form the structure of the youth ambassador program. Interested commission members would not necessarily be a subcommittee but a group who takes the issues of health, education, corrections, and economic development and apply it to the program. Then, MCC would follow up to identify one concrete area Pam has recommended. The impact of having the youth voice is great. It would be beneficial for the commission to have a new perspective of those who the Commission is trying to help the most. Maybe workforce services, a type of training, or a specific area that impacts youth is something to consider when helping MCC understand their focus. This can help guide the commission of what really matters to youth in respects to graduating high school, going to college, getting a training degree or staying out of prison. Input from the commission is highly encouraged to help MCC's mission. A criteria needs to be developed to address the application process, number of ambassadors, target community regions in need of leadership, and minority status. Involving youth is a great opportunity to provide MCC important feedback and possibly have them lead with inviting us to their communities where there are issues of prison-to-pipeline concerns, and health disparities. The youth

ambassador would be the ambassador for their particular area. A notice will be sent out of a potential meeting about the ambassadorship program.

Claudia Nakano

When the MCA office started, one of the goals was to involve youth. At the time, MCA took the direction of establishing the annual Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit which does take a significant amount of time. Since the program is a relatively large project, MCA is extending the invitation to the MCC Commission and MLK Commission to become involved with the development. A recommendation is to start over again with the development of the program and involve MCC and the MLK Commissions to obtain their input. The MCA team has already put together real specifics of how the youth ambassador program is to be developed. The preference is to bring key student's voices part of MCC's discussions. The intent is for the students to bring forward their perspective related to education, corrections, health, and economic development. Another benefit of brining younger voices to the discussion is the opportunity to learn of their interest in education and topics important to them. A suggestion is to have representation from different areas of the state and for MCC to meet outside of the Wasatch front where it makes it accessible for youth to meet with MCC. The suggestion is to have a small youth ambassador group. A suggestion for the selection of youth ambassadors would be determined by their involvement with leadership, and community involvement. Then the official selection would be done by the chair of the commission and appoints the individual.

Dr. Jacqueline Thompson

Agreed with involving the youth and is willing to help.

Dr. Marc Babitz

In healthcare, people are more affective if you provide "with community" as opposed to "for community." In relation to the youth ambassadorship program, the work will be more affective if MCC works with them rather than for them. A suggestion is for the youth ambassador to be knowledgeable on a variety of issues, so a training opportunity would be helpful for them to learn more about healthcare, education, corrections, and economic development. Mr.Babitz offered to help the youth ambassadors become educated about healthcare in Utah, by spending some time with them in a local health facility. A concern is the MCC meeting times are not conducive to high school or college students' schedules, and alternative times should be considered.

Dr. Kyle Reves

Typically almost every college and university has their own ambassador program. In higher education, select freshmen through seniors are involved in ambassador programs with meaningful work. Dr. Reyes offered his assistance in helping with the youth ambassador program. Current UVU ambassador programs go through a 3-tiered interview process, such as obtaining recommendation letters and articulating the purpose of their interest. Each UVU ambassador program has 10 presidential interns who works with each member of the Cabinet. As part of the ambassador program, some individuals may receive special scholarships for housing, half tuition, full tuition, and they are mentored. As prestigious as the program is going to be, an application and selection process needs to thoughtfully developed. A suggestion is for the youth ambassadorship to provide meaningful work. Several K16 (Kindergarten through Higher Education) alliances have similar programs in place, so leveraging what already exists MCC's conversations should be taken to the youth's sites.

MCA Updates -

Claudia Nakano

MCA sponsored and provided photography support to the first Pacific Islander Veteran's Day Celebration on November 11, it was in conjunction with Pacific Islander Health Week. MCA sponsored lunch on November 14 for the Asian Pacific American Institute for Congressional Studies, in conjunction with the local organization of Chinese American youth. MCA consulted with Ogden-Weber Applied Technology College's (OWATC) Multicultural Youth Day and provided them a similar program to MCA's Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit. Thanked Lt. Governor Spencer J. Cox for accepting invitation to speak at OWATC's event, and 300 students attended from Ogden school district. These smaller conference are very key to the goal of MCA and interest from other organizations want to collaborate. MCA's involvement with the event

came about when OWATC proposed interest in collaborating to develop similar summit format at OWATC campus. On December 10 the Utah Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights (MLK) Commission is holding their 25th Anniversary Celebration, in conjunction with International Human Rights Day. Multicultural Youth Leadership Day at the Capitol is set for Tuesday, February 16, 2016 in the Capitol Rotunda. Six hundred students are expected to attend which is lower than last year's 900 attendees. On October 13, MCA hosted their 4th Multicultural Youth Leadership Summit (MYLS) with 2000 individuals in attendance. Thanked commission members for attending and volunteering. Thanked Lt. Governor Spencer J. Cox for making a commitment to speak at the summit. As the attendance grows significantly each year, a goal is to move the summit outside of the Wasatch front to involve more communities within the state and to alleviate the large summit capacity.

Jenny Hor

Thanked Commission members for attending and volunteering at this year's MYLS. A demographic report was provided. A majority of the attending students were in grades 7, 8 and 9 and between the ages of 12, 13 and 14, with the majority being female. The top five school districts were Salt Lake City School District, Granite School District, Canyons School District, Davis School District and Ogden School District. For the racial demographic, Latinos at 46%, Caucasian at 22%, Pacific Islanders at 11% and those identified as 2 or more races at 7.5%. Students with parents who had some high school education but no diploma were at 18%, and the next largest share are students with parents who had a high school diploma or GED at 11.7%. Forty-eight percent of students qualified for free or reduced lunch. Students who spoke Spanish in the home besides English was at 45%. Ninety percent had not previously attended a summit. Thanked Dr. Jacqueline Thompson and Anapesi with providing a great amount of students. Contact Jenny for questions about the demographic report.

Tami Pyfer

Agreed having regional conferences is a good idea to increase engagement.

Dr. Kyle Reyes

On Friday, December 4 UVU is having a chief diversity officer retreat in St. George with chief diversity officers, K12 (Kindergarten through 12th grade) and higher education officials to discuss opportunities to support each other's regional work.

Other Business

Adjourn

MOTION: A quorum was not available.

Action Items

• The next MCC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 5, 2016, 10:00-11:30 a.m. in the Capitol Board Room.